

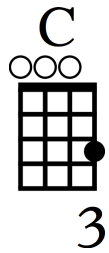
Lesson #10

We're going to be looking at a really cool way we can subtract certain strums from our strumming pattern to create interesting feels and rhythms.

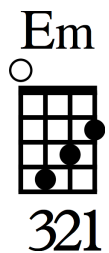
In this lesson, we're going to learn:

- how to subtract certain down strums from our strumming pattern to create interesting rhythms
- a song: **Puff the Magic Dragon**
- how we can vary a strumming pattern for parts of a song

You will need to know the following chords:

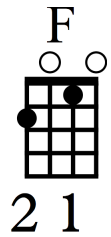


To play a C major chord, place your **ring finger** on the 3rd fret of the bottom string. The remaining strings ring completely open.

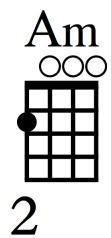


To play an Em chord, place your **index finger** on the 2nd fret of the first or bottom string, your **middle finger** on the 3rd fret of the second string and your **ring finger** on the 4th fret of the third string. Let the top string ring completely open.

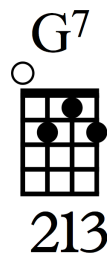
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To play an F major chord, place your **index finger** on the 1st fret of the second string and your **middle finger** on the 2nd fret of the top string or the fourth string. Let the first and third string ring completely open.

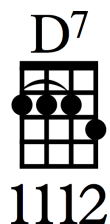


An A minor chord is really easy to play. Simply place your **middle finger** on the 2nd fret of the fourth or top string and let the bottom three strings ring completely open.



To play a G7 chord, place your **ring finger** on the 2nd fret of the first or bottom string. Place your **index finger** on the 1st fret of the second string. Place your **middle finger** on the 2nd fret of the third string. Let the top string ring completely open.

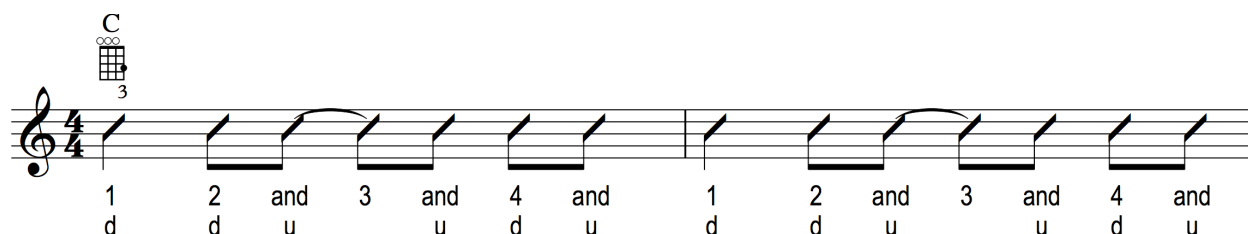
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This is a chord you want to barre. To play a D7 chord, lay your **index finger** across all four strings on the 2nd fret. While these strings are barred, place your **middle finger** on the 3rd fret of the first or bottom string.

Strumming Pattern #6

For all the strumming patterns you've learned so far, there has always been a down strum on beats 1, 2, 3, or 4 of the measure. For this strumming pattern, there isn't a down strum on the 3rd beat of the measure. Take a look.



It's not that the 3rd beat of the measure is missing--it's still there--but you're not playing anything on the 3rd beat of the measure except the up strum on the 'and' of 3. As shown by the curved line (called a **tie**) connecting the 'and' of beat 2 with beat 3, let the up strum from the 'and' of beat 2 ring out through beat 3.

Once you get comfortable just playing over a C major chord, practice switching from a C chord to an Em chord, as shown in the next example.

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The image shows a musical staff in 4/4 time. The first measure is marked with a C chord diagram (x32010) and a strumming pattern of four eighth notes: 1 d, 2 d and u, 3 and u, 4 and u. The second measure is marked with an Em chord diagram (021210) and a strumming pattern of four eighth notes: 1 d, 2 d and u, 3 and u, 4 and u. The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5 in the first measure and G4, A4, B4, C5 in the second measure.

Next, take a look at the chord chart for 'Puff the Magic Dragon' on the following page.

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Puff the Magic Dragon

verse 1:

C **Em** **F** **C**
Puff, the magic dragon lived by the sea,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7**
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honalee.
C **Em** **F** **C**
And little Jackie Paper loved that rascal Puff,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7** **C** **G7**
And brought him strings and sealing wax, and other fancy stuff

chorus:

C **Em** **F** **C**
Oh, Puff the magic dragon lived by the sea,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7**
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honalee.
C **Em** **F** **C**
Puff, the magic dragon lived by the sea,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7** **C** **G7**
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honalee.

C **Em** **F** **C**
Together they would travel on a boat with billowed sail,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7**
Jackie kept a lookout perched on Puff's gigantic tail.
C **Em** **F** **C**
Noble kings and princes would bow whene'er they came.
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7** **C** **G7**
Pirate ships would lower their flags when Puff roared out his name.

[chorus]

verse 2:

C **Em** **F** **C**
A dragon lives forever, but not so little boys,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7**
Painted wings and giant's rings make way for other toys.

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C **Em** **F** **C**
One gray night it happened, Jackie Paper came no more,
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7** **C** **G7**
And Puff that mighty dragon, he ceased his fearless roar.

C **Em** **F** **C**
His head was bent in sorrow, green scales fell like rain.
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7**
Puff no longer went to play along the cherry lane.

C **Em** **F** **C**
Without his lifelong friend, Puff could not be brave.
F **C** **Am** **D7** **G7** **C** **G7**
So Puff that mighty dragon, sadly slipped into his cave.

[chorus]

Practice Objectives

Focus your practice on these things before you move to the next lesson:

- learn strumming pattern #6
- learn how to play “Puff the Magic Dragon”
- try switching to down strums for certain parts of “Puff the Magic Dragon”, as shown in the video lesson
- practice applying the strumming patterns you’ve learned in past lessons to the new songs you’ve been learning (e.g. use strumming pattern #5 to play “I’ve Been Working On the Railroad”)

Remember, this course is a two way conversation between you and me, so if you have a question, don’t forget to post it in the online member’s area for this lesson!